Attorney Docket No.: 1997P07709US02

Application No: 08/165,772 Page 2 of 9

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for evaporative leak detection of an automotive vehicle fuel system including a tank having vapor at a known pressure at a first point in time, the method comprising:

supplying from the tank fuel being combusted by the automotive vehicle;

measuring and recording a first temperature of the vapor at substantially the first point in time, which is not during the supplying;

measuring and recording a second temperature and a measured pressure of the vapor at a second point in time, which is not during the supplying;

computing a temperature-compensated pressure based on previously measured values; and

comparing the temperature-compensated pressure with the measured pressure at a second point in time to detect a leak.

- 2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the temperature-compensated pressure is computed as a function of the known pressure at the first point in time and of the measured temperatures.
- 3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the function comprises:

$$P_c = P_1(2-T_2/T_1)$$

where P_c is the temperature-compensated pressure, T_1 is the first temperature at the first point in time and T_2 is the second temperature at the second point in time.

Claims 4-16 (Canceled).

17. (Currently amended) A method for evaporative leak detection in a fuel system of an automotive vehicle, the method comprising:

supplying with the fuel system fuel being combusted by the automotive vehicle;

measuring and recording a first temperature and a first vapor pressure in the fuel system at a first point in time, which is not during the supplying;

Attorney Docket No.: 1997P07709US02 Application No: 09/185.772

Page 3 of 9

measuring and recording a second temperature and a second vapor pressure in the fuel system at a second point in time, which is not during the supplying;

compensating the first vapor pressure based on the first and second temperatures, thereby defining a temperature-compensated first vapor pressure; and

comparing the temperature-compensated first vapor pressure with the second vapor pressure to detect a leak in the fuel system between the first and second points in time.

18. (Currently amended) A method of evaporative leak detection for a fuel system of a vehicle including an internal combustion engine and a fuel tank, the fuel system having fuel vapor at a known pressure at a first point in time, the method comprising:

combusting in the internal combustion engine fuel from the fuel tank;

measuring at substantially the first point in time a first temperature of the fuel vapor, the first point in time is not during the combusting;

measuring at a second point in time a second temperature of the fuel vapor and a measured pressure of the fuel vapor, the second point in time is not during the combusting; computing a temperature-compensated pressure based on:

the known pressure of the fuel vapor at the first point in time the first temperature of the fuel vapor, and the second temperature of the fuel vapor; and

comparing the temperature-compensated pressure with the measured pressure at the second point in time to detect a leak.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the computing the temperature-compensated pressure comprises:

$$P_c = P_1(2-T_2/T_1)$$

where P_c is the temperature compensated pressure, T_1 is the first temperature of the fuel vapor at the first point in time and T_2 is the second temperature of the fuel vapor at the second point in time.

Attorney Docket No.: 1997P07709US02 Application No: 09/165,772

Page 4 of 9

p.6

- The method according to claim 18, further comprising: 20. (Previously presented) recording at substantially the first point in time a first temperature of the fuel vapor; and recording at a second point in time a second temperature of the fuel vapor and a measured pressure of the fuel vapor.
- The method according to claim 18, wherein the second point in 21. (Previously presented) time follows the first point in time.
- 22. The method according to claim 21, wherein the combusting (Previously presented) occurs separately from the measuring.
- 23. A method for evaporative leak detection for a fuel system of (Previously presented) including an engine and a fuel tank, the method comprising:

supplying fuel from the fuel tank to the engine;

measuring and recording a first temperature and a first vapor pressure in the fuel system at a first point in time, which is not during the supplying fuel;

measuring and recording a second temperature and a second vapor pressure in the fuel system at a second point in time, which is not during the supplying fuel;

compensating the first vapor pressure based on the first and second temperatures, thereby defining a temperature-compensated first vapor pressure; and

comparing the temperature-compensated first vapor pressure with the second vapor pressure to detect a leak in the fuel system between the first and second points in time.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, further comprising: recording the first temperature and the first vapor pressure in the fuel system at the first point in time; and

recording the second temperature and the second vapor pressure in the fuel system at the second point in time.